

**Happy National Volunteer Week 2022 from all of us at SERV-OR and the Oregon Public Health Division!** We are humbled and inspired by your devotion and passion for helping others. Thank you all for dedicating your time and invaluable skills to help end health disparities in Oregon.

In celebration of your incredible contributions to public health emergency preparedness and response efforts, as well as the COVID-19 response, we would like to recognize the awardees for the 2021-2022 SERV-OR Volunteer Recognition Awards.

## Medical Reserve Corps Awardees

### Outstanding MRC Volunteer

This award honors an MRC volunteer who has played a significant role in responding to a disaster or public health emergency on behalf of their MRC. They have gone above and beyond to support MRC activities and response efforts in their community.

**Co-Awardees:** Nehalem Bay Medical Reserve Corps Coordinators Velda Handler RN, CPHQ, CCM, and Kate Grimm RN, MSN, ACNP, FNP

*“Kate Grimm and Velda Handler were co-leaders of the Nehalem Bay MRC during the COVID-19 pandemic. Together, they were responsible for coordinating Nehalem Bay MRC volunteers in Tillamook County for COVID-19 vaccination events and Monoclonal Antibody Therapy. Velda, Kate and Nehalem Bay MRC played an instrumental role in Tillamook County reaching a vaccination rate of 67% among residents aged 12 and older.”* – Nehalem Bay MRC Volunteer

### Honorable Mentions:

- Kat Burgess EMT, Coos County MRC
- Lila Wickham RN, Cannon Beach MRC

### Most Hours Served by an MRC Volunteer

This award honors the MRC volunteer who served the most hours during 2021-2022 out of all Oregon MRC units.

**Awardee:** Lila Wickham RN, Cannon Beach MRC

Lila completed 1,000 hours of volunteer service with Cannon Beach MRC during 2021-2022. Thank you, Lila for your amazing service!

*“Lila has dedicated her time and energy to make sure that all members of the Cannon Beach MRC are informed, involved, and updated with current policies, procedures, and events to ensure that the community and volunteers are prepared for any*

*circumstance(s) that may arise. I am proud to be a part of the Cannon Beach MRC because of Lila's dedication and organization skill set."* – Cannon Beach MRC Volunteer

#### **Honorable mentions:**

- Velda Handler RN, CPHQ, CCM, Nehalem Bay MRC
- Kate Grimm RN, MSN, ACNP, FNP, Nehalem Bay MRC

#### **MRC Mentor Award**

This award honors an MRC member who has supported the growth of fellow MRC members through collaboration and teaching/sharing practices to support individual members and their MRC unit as a whole.

**Awardee:** Kat Burgess EMT, Coos County MRC

*"Kat is very supportive, and uplifting. She has an amazing rapport with everyone she works with. She leads our team and is well liked!"* – Coos County MRC Volunteer

#### **Honorable Mentions:**

- Lila Wickham RN, Cannon Beach MRC
- Kate Grimm RN, MSN, ACNP, FNP, Nehalem Bay MRC
- Velda Handler RN, CPHQ, CCM, Nehalem Bay MRC

#### **Community Response Award**

This award honors an MRC unit that has made a significant contribution to disaster and/or public health emergency response during 2021-2022.

**Awardee:** Linn County MRC

*"The Linn County MRC has made impressive strides in community preparedness and resilience through the MRC Unit over the last two years. Neva Anderson as the Unit Administrator and County's PHEP Coordinator has made unparalleled progress growing the volunteer pool in the county and defining the Medical Reserve Corps as an ESSENTIAL response mechanism for public health and all-hazards response in Oregon. The Linn County MRC is a model of progress, organization, cohesion, and community."* – Sophie Miller-Desart, SERV-OR and MRC State Coordinator

#### **Honorable mentions:**

- Cannon Beach MRC
- Nehalem Bay MRC

#### **Innovator Award**

This award honors an MRC unit that has developed and carried out a new strategy or activity that has improved disaster and public health emergency preparedness and response in their community.

**Awardee:** Nehalem Bay MRC

*“As a unit managed by volunteers and housed outside of a public body, the Nehalem Bay MRC has always had a lot on their plate to become established in Tillamook County as a reliable public health resource. In the wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Nehalem Bay volunteers and leaders stepped up to the challenge. What I see today is an innovative and engaged unit that has formed versatile partnerships, expanded outside of a municipality into the entire county, and developed specialized deployment plans with healthcare systems, local public health and emergency managers, other local voluntary organizations, neighboring jurisdictions, and other state-level emergency response programs. Congratulations to Nehalem Bay MRC volunteers and leaders for all your amazing progress to establish these innovative yet fundamental partnerships and programs!”*– Sophie Miller-Desart, SERV-OR and MRC State Coordinator

#### **Honorable mentions:**

- Cannon Beach MRC

## **SMVP Awardees**

### **Outstanding SMVP Volunteer**

This award honors a volunteer from the State Managed Volunteer Pool who has played a significant role in responding to a disaster or public health emergency. This SMVP member has gone above and beyond to support volunteer activities and response efforts.

**Awardee:** Len Petrush, EMT

*“Len Petrush was Logistics Coordinator managing PPE intake and flow from the early start of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Unit's (CRRU) inception for approximately 50 weeks. His willingness to do any task requested or assigned to him and his extensive knowledge as both an EMT and Logistics Specialist were invaluable to the COVID-19 response effort.”* – Nehalem Bay MRC Volunteer

#### **Honorable mentions:**

- Gary Arfstrom, LPC
- Larry Wiedenhof, RN
- Terri Schmidt, MD
- Jon Schnebly, PharmD

### **Outstanding Provider on Duty (POD)**

This award honors the volunteer POD that has played an instrumental role in supporting mass-vaccination events by responding to consult requests quickly, displaying flexibility by adjusting to event changes and/or filling several last-minute requests for support.

**Awardee:** Terri Homer, MD

*“The SERV-OR team could always count on Dr. Homer to respond to last-minute requests for Remote POD support. Dr. Homer's willingness to support multiple COVID-*

*19 vaccination events a day helped the SERV-OR team meet the demand for Remote POD support for Oregon's many COVID-19 vaccine events. During 2021-2022, Dr. Homer completed a total of 837.5 Remote POD volunteer hours. Thank you, Dr. Homer for your dedication to the Remote POD role!" – Andie Willett, SERV-OR Volunteer Coordinator*

**Honorable mentions:**

- Liz Rantz, MD
- Shanilka deSoyza, MD

**SMVP Mentor Award**

This award honors a volunteer from the State Managed Volunteer Pool that has supported the growth of other members through collaboration, teaching/sharing practices and carrying out initiatives to support volunteer events/deployments.

**Awardee:** Jeff Rubin, EMT

*"Jeff is dedicated to maintaining the information pipeline from OHA and other public health institutions to SERV-OR members. He stays connected to changing and emerging data, treatment strategies, and all manner of preparedness news, digesting key messages for our broader community. Thank you, Jeff for your contributions to the SERV-OR Bulletin, the COVID-19 response, and all your years of dedicated service!" – Sophie Miller-Desart, SERV-OR and MRC State Coordinator*

**Honorable mentions:**

- Terri Schmidt, MD
- Helen Miller, MD
- Eric Stroud, PA
- Gary Monzon, MD

**Saved the Day Award**

This award honors a volunteer from the State Managed Volunteer Pool who has dedicated significant time and effort to support to rural volunteer deployments and/or deployments that were in greatest need for volunteer support.

**Awardee:** Larry Wiedenhoft, RN

*"Larry has dedicated countless hours supporting COVID-19 vaccine and testing events as well as hospital/facility staffing shortages during the Delta and Omicron COVID-19 variant surges. SERV-OR could always count on Larry to respond to a call-out to support the most rural vaccine events and requests for volunteer staffing support. Thank you, Larry, for 'saving the day' during the COVID-19 pandemic!" – Andie Willett, SERV-OR Volunteer Coordinator*

**Honorable mentions:**

- Liz Rantz, MD
- Shanilka deSoyza, MD

### **Most Hours Served with SMVP**

This award honors a volunteer from the State Managed Volunteer Pool that has contributed the most hours of service during 2021-2022.

**Awardee:** Richard Urbanski, MD

Dr. Urbanski is one of the first SMVP volunteers to be deployed in response to COVID-19 and has served a total of 1,239.5 volunteer hours supporting contact tracing efforts. Thank you, Dr. Urbanski, for your dedication!

### **Honorable Mentions:**

- Terri Homer, MD
- Liz Rantz, MD
- Mary Lyons, MD

### **Most Volunteered Vaccinator**

This award honors a volunteer from the State Managed Volunteer Pool who has contributed the most hours of service in support of in-person COVID-19 mass-vaccine events.

**Awardee:** Frances Munkenbeck, MD

Dr. Munkenbeck has served a total of 229 volunteer hours supporting vaccine events during 2021-2022. Thank you, Dr. Munkenbeck, for your dedication!

### **Honorable Mentions:**

- Brian Seymour, EMT
- Jean Carroll, RN
- Dale Harris, MD

### **Most Hours Served as Remote Provider on Duty (POD)**

This award honors a volunteer from the State Managed Volunteer Pool who has served the most hours as a volunteer Remote Provider on Duty for mass-vaccination events held throughout Oregon.

**Awardee:** Shanilka deSoyza, MD

Dr. deSoyza has served a total of 1,485.5 hours supporting mass-vaccination events as a Remote POD. Thank you, Dr. deSoyza for your amazing contribution and dedication to the Remote POD volunteer role!

### **Honorable Mentions:**

- Terri Homer, MD
- Liz Rantz, MD
- Mary Lyons, MD
- Deane DeFontes, MD